

السنة الحادية والعشرون

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INTERNATIONAL

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Concluding our serialisation of Russell Davies's explosive book

Education
Europe's students on the brink
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Blair backs health spokeswoman despite private calls for dismissal over choice of selective grammar school for son

Harman toughs it out

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

THE Labour leader, Tony Blair, put his authority on the line last night when he backed Harriet Harman, his isolated health spokeswoman, despite calls from senior members of the shadow cabinet for her to be sacked over her decision to send her son to a selective grammar school.

After a day spent looking at home, with rumours of her resignation mounting at Westminster, Ms Harman met Mr Blair last night in his office before going on Channel 4 News to insist her decision was taken in the interests of her son and did not compromise the party's decades-long opposition to selection.

Against a storm of criticism from within her party, Ms Harman said: "I am not going to be resigning. I don't think my position is untenable. I know our choice has been controversial, but we had to make the right decision in the interests of our child, and I think most parents up and down the country would have done exactly the same thing."

She added: "Our party's policy remains opposed to selection. I support that. This was a personal choice for us and we made it in the circumstances as they are now. We would have been less than human if we had done anything else."

She insisted the grant-maintained St Olave's School in Orpington, Kent, to which she is sending her second son Joe, was a state school, even though children were selected by entrance exam.

She said: "We do not think the way to improve the education system is by a return to the 11-plus, creaming off 25 per cent and writing off 75 per cent." Tory sources, however, pointed out that the school was so successful precisely because it was based on selection at 11, making her position absurd.

In the Commons, the Labour front bench unequivocally reaffirmed its opposition to selection, but Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, claimed Labour's education policies, one of the centre-pieces of its pitch in the coming election, were in "total disarray".

Some senior shadow cabinet members last night remained dissatisfied with Ms Harman's explanations and were privately urging her dismissal, even though that has been ruled out. The row could cause long-term damage for Labour if the Tory charge of Labour hypocrisy over equality sticks.

Gerry Steinberg, the Durham MP who quit his post as Labour's backbench education committee chairman on Sunday, said he had resigned because the action taken by Harriet Harman is in direct contradiction to Labour's policy on comprehensive education and somebody had to make a stand.

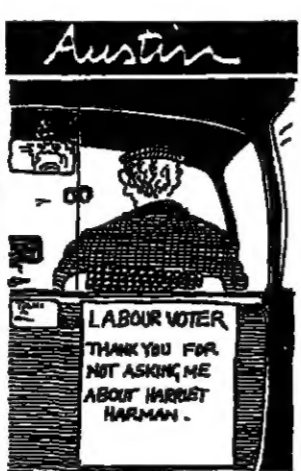
Writing in the Guardian, the Labour whip Peter Eain argued: "Selection is a mechanism for perpetuating the old class divide which has prevented Britain creating a decent educational system with high standards for all. But that isn't what we're doing. The professional classes, MPs included, send their children to local comprehensives as well."

Former shadow minister Ann Clwyd echoed the criticism, saying: "On this particular issue, she is wrong."

Mr Blair was told of Ms Harman's decision to send her son to a grammar school after it had been taken. He believes her behaviour does not represent a breach of party policy in that Labour does not propose shutting the existing grammar schools without carrying out ballots of local communities.

In the Commons, David Blunkett, the shadow education secretary, said: "Every parent in every community, whether they are a Member of Parliament or not, should have the right to exercise a preference for their child to go to the school of their choice. That preference should not be blocked by any mechanism that prevents a child entering that school, either on his prior attainment at the age of 11 or on the interview of his parents by a head teacher. That preference should not be blocked by any mechanism that prevents a child entering that school, either on his prior attainment at the age of 11 or on the interview of his parents by a head teacher. That preference should not be blocked by any mechanism that prevents a child entering that school, either on his prior attainment at the age of 11 or on the interview of his parents by a head teacher."

Leader comment, Letters, page 8



MP trawled opt-out schools

St Olave's and St Saviour's, the school in Orpington, Kent, where he won a place in a selective exam. Dulwich Hamlets does not appear in a list of feeder schools in St Olave's prospectus.

Malcolm Edwards, a governor of St Olave's, said last night: "Nobody went in September 1995 from there. There was at least one the year before, but none in the year before that."

St Olave's selects 90 boys a year in highly competitive tests in reasoning, English and mathematics, reflected in the 99 per cent of pupils who gain five A to C grades at GCSE. Southwark local authority said only a handful of children from the borough would go to St Olave's.

Ms Harman and her husband Jack Dromey, an official of the Transport and General Workers' Union, send their elder son Harry to the London Oratory, the school chosen by Tony and Cherie Blair for their son.

The information about the applications to other grant-maintained schools outside Ms Harman's home borough of Southwark came from reliable education sources in the London Borough of Bromley.

Galileo plunges Nasa in mystery

Tim Radford Science Editor

GALILEO, the space probe that plunged to an explosive end in the dense, choking atmosphere of the planet Jupiter in December, last night delivered a delayed bombshell for astronomers.

The first data sent back by the probe on its 57 minutes of transmission, as it descended deep into the gaseous giant, may force scientists to reconsider their theories of planetary formation.

The results, released by Nasa's Ames Research Centre at Mountain View, California, yesterday, suggested that Jupiter's atmosphere contained only half the helium expected. Other rare elements such as neon were also "missing". Scientists expected the atmosphere to be layered, like a cake. Instead of three obvious tiers in the structure, they found none. There should have been evidence of lightning, and there wasn't. They expected water, and detected very little. They found even stronger winds than they had expected.

The results are tantalising. But then the story of the probe has been an exasperation from the start. The experiment was conceived two decades ago, delayed by the Challenger shuttle tragedy, and then rebuffed to take in the lessons of that tragedy.

"Things went wrong. The main antenna failed to unfurl, and all the spacecraft's information has been relayed haltingly on a secondary antenna. The main ship's tape recorder appeared to fail and then righted itself. Timing and dosing technology meant that for a knuckle-whitening hour or more, scientists in California had no news of whether or not the probe made its plunge at 106,000mph into Jupiter's depths. Days elapsed before they could be sure that information had been relayed to the parent craft in orbit

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Harriet Harman leaving ITN last night after saying she had made the right choice of school for her son

World Cup squad

555

Live TV joins Sky in scramble for sport

John Duncan Sports Correspondent

THE tide of sports rights flowing to Rupert Murdoch's Sky Sports was dramatically stemmed last night when Live TV, the channel that brings you topless darts and plotless soaps, made an audacious bid for live football — £10,000 per year for 20 live games from the Pontins League.

The league, made up of reserve teams of northern Premiership and Football League clubs, is discussing the channel's offer.

"We have received a proposal and it is being discussed by the management committee. A decision however is not imminent," said a Pontins

Princess challenged on 'false allegations'

Edward Pilkington

THE Princess of Wales's campaign to create a role for herself as "ambassador for Britain" received a double blow yesterday with the resignation of her closest adviser and news that she is facing a legal challenge over comments she is alleged to have made about one of her husband's employees.

Mr Jephson, the princess's private secretary since 1991, said his decision to quit had been made "perfectly amicably" and that there was "no particular reason" behind his departure save a wish to pursue a new career.

However, the fact that his departure takes effect immediately is likely to fuel speculation that he had darker motives for leaving. Mr Jephson is understood to have been disappointed that he failed to inform him of her controversial Panorama interview until the morning it was announced and by her use of the term "the enemy" to describe Buckingham Palace officials.

In a further development, it was announced yesterday that the princess is to employ an independent media pundit to advise her on handling the press.

The legal challenge comes from Tiggy Legge-Bourke, the nanny employed by the Princess of Wales. She has instructed the libel lawyer,



Tiggy Legge-Bourke: has instructed libel lawyer



Peter Carter-Ruck, to write to the princess's solicitors demanding a retraction of 'false allegations' the princess is alleged to have made against her.

detailed, private letter was sent at the same time to the princess's lawyers, Mishcon de Reya, demanding a retraction.

Ms Legge-Bourke was taken on in 1993 as "social secretary" with a special brief referring to princess William and Harry. Her close relationship with the boys as well as with the prince — which the palace in recent months has been at pains to point out have always been correct — are said to have annoyed the princess.

Mr Jephson's departure brings to an end eight years of what the palace last night called his "loyal service" on behalf of the princess. He worked for three years as her enquiry before becoming private secretary.

Mr Jephson said he had always intended to resign this year but only informed the princess with a seriously depleted support staff at a time when she is under considerable stress over divorce negotiations. Her press secretary, Geoffrey Crawford, refused to work for her soon after the Panorama interview, and last year the princess failed to appoint an enquiry to replace Edward Musto who left at the end of his term.

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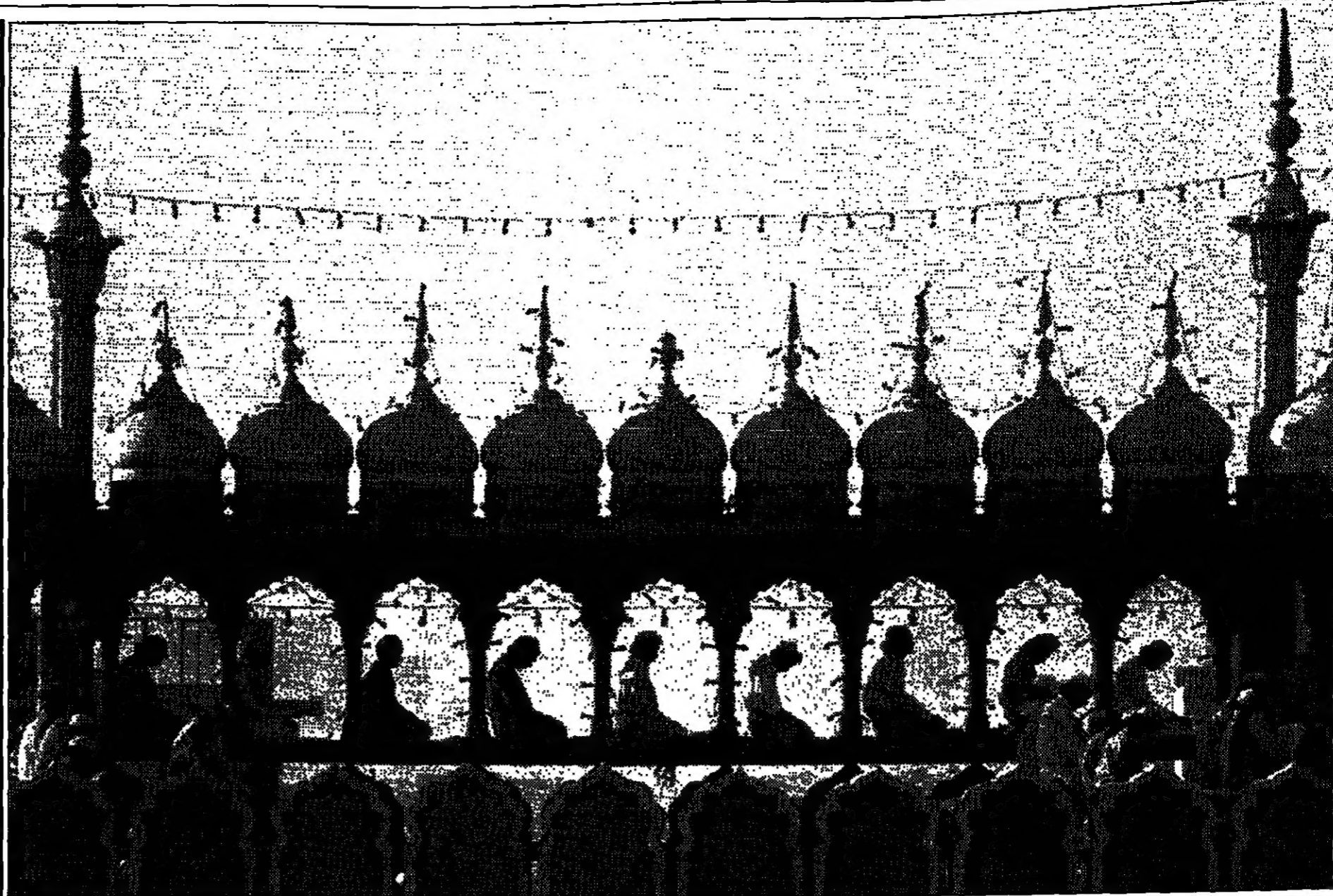
Stepford wife deserts House



Simon Hoggart

THE Tories had far too much to be happy about yesterday. They could pick either the Liberals' leaked document in which the party accused itself of being "naive", "woolly" and "barmy", or Harriet Harman's decision to send her son to a selective grammar school. So the Conservatives were in the position of a fortunate dog, obliged to choose between gnawing a juicy bone or licking its private parts. Harriet Harman won. For one thing, the Liberals have always been naive and barmy. That's their charm. For another, there was the loud silence from Labour. Though the Education Secretary, Gillian Shephard, allowed two dozen interruptions to her speech, not one was in Ms Harman's defence. Nor was she herself present, as Tories were quick to point out. With his usual clod-hopping irony - it's like watching a hippo trying to tap dance - David Shaw (C. Dover) asked whether the order papers had been distributed since "people with an interest in grant-maintained schools are not present for this debate". Possibly she was advised not to show her face. Perhaps she had an unbreakable appointment. Either way, I suspect it was a mistake. When Dennis Skinner was assailed in the weekend press, he was first into the Chamber on Monday and scowled at everyone while sucking a gigantic mint. The story of his affair was dead in two days. Not that it looks wimpy. It concedes your opponents' case by default. If she had appeared the Tories would have bayed and jeered, but they would secretly have admired her spunk. Labour MPs would have been obliged to support her. As it is, Ms Harman is paying the price for being a Step-

ford wife in the New Labour Party. She looks too smooth, too self-satisfied, too close to Mr Blair's middle-class ideal. There are those who suspect she was not born, but assembled in a lab by Peter Mandelson. Numerous Labour MPs are, behind their hands, delighted by her discomfiture. And like many people who are generally supposed to look good on television, she doesn't. Less obviously handsome women such as Mo Mowlam and Clare Short are treated more kindly by the camera because they are tough, funny and sincere. Even today, these count for more than high cheekbones. Tory after Tory denounced Ms Harman. Mrs Shephard schooled them by accusing her repeatedly of wanting "choice and diversity for herself, while removing them from everybody else". The Secretary of State would say this once more, then give way to a back-bencher. The back-bencher would find another form of words to say the same thing, whereupon Mrs Shephard would stand up and say it all over again. Labour tried vainly to divert her to other topics - had the Prime Minister said that church schools could opt out without asking parents? but nobody tackled Hattie. Until David Blunkett. He blamed everything on John Major, who had created messes for Mrs Shephard to clear up. "The Secretary of State is like a market gardener following with a dustpan a rag-and-bone man with a diarrhoeic horse." (He meant "diarrhoeic" but no doubt the braille is similar.) Then with solemn gravity he announced the official, unapproved defence. It went thus: "Every parent in every community, whether they are a member of Parliament or not, should have the right to exercise a preference for their child to go to the school of their choice. That preference should not be blocked by any mechanism." What does that mean? Who can say? There are some mysteries which it is not in our gift to know. But I suspect that if Ms Harman had been there to listen to the best in her defence, she might have felt distinctly ill.



World of prayer... Worshippers pray in the gallery of the main mosque in Delhi yesterday. Muslims began the fasting month of Ramadan on Sunday. PHOTOGRAPH: SUNIL MALHOTRA

Clarke widens Tory divisions on EMU

Backing for future publicity drive at odds with Foreign Office letter

John Palmer in Brussels
DIVISIONS within the Government over the European single currency widened yesterday when the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke, threw his support behind proposals for a future pro-monetary union information campaign in Britain. He said that only internal political problems were preventing the campaign starting now. Mr Clarke also underlined his differences with Tory Eurosceptics when he dismissed suggestions that monetary union would have to be delayed because of the slow-down in European economies. Earlier the Foreign Office minister, David Davis, had written to the European Commission opposing any attempt by it to launch a hard-sell promotion drive in Britain. The Commission is preparing a multi-million pound campaign to explain the advantages of the single currency to the public but never had any intention of unleashing it in Britain against the Government's wishes. Speaking after a meeting of EU finance ministers in Brussels, Mr Clarke played down any suggestion that London had vetoed the campaign. "It is a bit of a non-issue. The Commission had decided not to hold a campaign in the UK some time ago and I understand this was being confirmed today," he said. The Chancellor went on to imply that only the sensitivity of the single currency issue in Tory party politics was preventing a campaign being launched now. "There is a need for an information campaign in the UK... (but) at the moment we cannot have that debate," he declared. "Sooner or later there has to be that debate." Talk in London that the UK had forced the Commission into a humiliating climbdown over a single currency promotion campaign, was described as "absolute rubbish" by Commission officials. Meanwhile, the British Conservative chairman of the European Parliament's budget committee, James Ellis, said yesterday that some £40 million had been earmarked this year for information campaigns on the single currency and European citizens' rights. "The European Parliament's aim is to work closely with the Commission on campaigns [providing] information for citizens on Europe... and the single currency," he said. Despite renewed speculation about a possible delay in the EMU timetable, an opinion poll showed clear overall public support for the proposed "euro". Carried out in all 15 countries after the Madrid summit last month, it shows 54 per cent in favour of a single currency and 37 per cent against, a marked improvement on last year. In Britain, however, 32 per cent of those polled were for and 54 per cent against. There is also concern that in Germany only 38 per cent are in favour although this is a slight increase compared with the previous poll three months ago. "We have a major task ahead to show our public that the single currency is necessary and in their interests," the economics commissioner, Yves Thibault de Silguy, told a conference of some 400 politicians, industrialists, consumers, trade unions and women's groups in Brussels.

Stalled manufacturing cuts growth to 3-year low
The CSO said the annual rate of economic expansion had fallen to 1.8 per cent in the last three months of 1995, down from 2.1 per cent in the previous quarter, and the lowest level since the first three months of 1993. During 1995 the economy is estimated to have expanded by 2.8 per cent, compared to November's budget forecast of 2.75 per cent. City analysts said the gloomy figures vindicated the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke's decision last week to cut the cost of borrowing by 0.25 percentage points to 6.25 per cent, and shortened the odds on more policy loosening over the next few months. Simon Briscoe, an economist at Nikko Europe, said: "These figures show this is more than just a growth pause. If there is any more evidence of industrial weakness, people will be calling for an immediate cut." He said the markets had already factored in another 0.25 percentage point cut before March. But other economists said the economy could pick up again during 1996, with some of the manufacturing weakness explained by firms running down plentiful stocks. The Labour leader Tony Blair said: "Given the fact that Britain over 15 or 16 years has gone from 19th to the world league table of prosperity down to 18th under the Conservatives, this emphasises yet again the importance of taking action to improve the underlying economic and industrial strength of the economy." The CSO confirmed that industrial activity remained flat between October and November, partly because the

mild weather reduced demand for fuel supplies. The economy grew by 0.4 per cent in the last quarter, the CSO said. Excluding oil and gas, the rate of expansion was also 0.4 per cent. The annual pace of growth was 1.7 per cent. Treasury officials insisted that growth was better than many economists had expected, and that the prospects for hitting the forecast 3 per cent expansion in 1996 were good. Kobi tackles job crisis, page 6

Review

Follies caught in gold and bronze

Rachel Barnes

Bill Woodrow Tate Gallery, London

BILL Woodrow's latest bronze and gold sculpture goes on show today five years after his last British exhibition. This is Woodrow's first major show since he broke decisively with the style that won him an international reputation as a leading figure in the New British sculpture. Following in the wake of Kurt Schwitters, and later Picasso, Woodrow's early work recycled junk consumer objects such as cars, televisions, washing machines and filing cabinets, which he transformed into images exploring environmental issues. That is all over now. Woodrow, at 47, is a reconstructed nineties man, abandoning his recycled rubbish for costly, large-scale bronze sculptures, and he is now involved in two methods, welding in steel and casting in bronze, which his generation had emphatically rejected. As the exhibition's title, Fools' Gold, suggests, Woodrow's theme has also changed to basic survival in a world that is corrupted and dominated by money. Fools' Gold is deliberately suggestive of the National Lottery and the folly of allowing financial ambitions to rule our lives. A sculpted head entitled Moneyman, which has gold pieces embedded in stone face and skull, plays with this theme. Another to do so is In Awe Of The Pawnbroker, a 30-ft piece created from five giant rings chained together, each

on its own cushion and each holding a small sculpture. "The beauty of the pawnbroker's sign, which I see around south London," he said. "It then began to represent for me this whole issue of the precariousness of survival." In his Self-Portrait from 1989, Woodrow depicts an emaciated, fragile figure, caught in a jigsaw of bronze pieces. Gold coins refer to the continuing problem for the artist to make a living. The centrepiece is a huge spire, God Knows, cast in bronze and adorned with ropes and bells that have fallen to the ground. The weathervane on top has become a vast pair of scissors. It is a magical, poetic piece, perfectly suited to the Tate's Octagon, for which Woodrow planned it. As with much of his work, the inspiration was initially visual, but he uses the spire to question the outcome of a society with material values to which religion is strangely at odds with the immediacy and vitality of the work. This is a mixed show, some sculptures conveying Woodrow's thoughts and ideologies more forcibly than others. But the artist's rich imagination gives each work an individual power. God Knows is the undoubted masterpiece, possibly of Woodrow's oeuvre to date. For this alone, it is worth going to the Tate.

Slowing economy



Richard Thomas
HOPES of further cuts in interest rates rose yesterday after government data showed a stalled manufacturing sector and recession on construction sites had dragged economic growth to a three-year low. Only the growing services sector is boosting the economy as factories are hit by weaker export demand from the continent and building firms continue to suffer from a subdued housing market, according to data from the Central Statistical Office.

Trucker fined £2,000 over hit-and-run death

Lawrence Donegan

AN AUSTRIAN lorry driver was fined £2,000 yesterday after he admitted driving away from an accident in which a newspaper delivery girl was knocked off her bicycle and killed. Herbert Lagler, aged 25, pleaded guilty to three charges in connection with the death of 15-year-old Amy Durling, who died on the A299 near her home in Kent last Thursday. Mr Lagler, of Brakrau, Austria, was fined £730 for failing to stop after the accident, £750 for failing to report it and £500 for careless driving. Magistrates at Canterbury ordered him to be detained until the fines were paid. Amy, of Greenhill, Herne Bay, was killed when she was hit by Mr Lagler's 40-tonne truck as she was attempting to negotiate a roundabout near her home in morning commuter traffic. Kevin Malony, prosecuting, told the court the accident happened 30 minutes before sunrise. "She was observing the correct procedure, she had the right of way and was signalling to leave the roundabout," he said. "Whilst crossing the roundabout at low speed the defendant's vehicle struck the rear wheel of the bicycle."



Amy Durling, 15-year-old victim of a hit-and-run driver

Jupiter probe confounds Nasa on beginnings

Continued from page 1

130,000 miles above the planet. Just as they prepared to announce their tentative triumphs, the budget war between Congress and the Administration by abruptly shutting down the entire operation: the scientists were deemed to be "on furlough" and could release no data. This, too, was frustrating: Nasa's research budget about to be reviewed, by firms running down plentiful stocks. The Labour leader Tony Blair said: "Given the fact that Britain over 15 or 16 years has gone from 19th to the world league table of prosperity down to 18th under the Conservatives, this emphasises yet again the importance of taking action to improve the underlying economic and industrial strength of the economy." The CSO confirmed that industrial activity remained flat between October and November, partly because the



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Charity warns that water meters threaten basic health of poor

Lawrence Donegan

FAMILIES on low incomes could suffer increased health problems as a result of living in houses which are water-metered, a children's charity said yesterday. Save the Children said the compulsory introduction of metering in newly-built homes was putting pressure

on the poorest families to save on water supplies essential to basic health and hygiene. In a survey of low income households on estates, the charity found families in metered homes were paying 4 per cent of their weekly budget on water, four times the national average, and warned the water industry and Government against sanctioning the widespread use of meters.

سكان الراجل



Sharon Stone: best actress award for Casino 'a miracle'

Who got what

Table listing Golden Globe award winners and nominees for various categories like Drama, Musical or comedy, Actor, Actress, etc.



Britain's Emma Thompson with her award for Sense and Sensibility PHOTOGRAPH: JEFF HAYNES

Award for Thompson's Hollywood sensibility

'I worked from 7 till 10 and then took a break to drink a little tea and weep, and then I worked for another three hours'

Emma Thompson on the adaptation of Austen which won her a Golden Globe

BRITISH actress Emma Thompson has added a screenplay adaptation, Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility, to her Hollywood laurels at the Golden Globe Awards.

film, the Globe's sponsors, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, have an influence higher than usual as precursors of the Academy's Oscar night.

any does not. This time it went to one of the year's most beguiling films, Babe, an Australian-made story about a sheep-herding piglet.

Police bit and kicked Nigerian

Asylum seeker 'had 45 injuries' when he died after drugs arrest

TWO police officers who arrested a Nigerian asylum-seeker for possessing crack cocaine bit him, kicked him twice in the head and gripped him in a necklock during their struggle to hold him at St Pancras court yesterday.

could only be broken by kicking Mr Lapite in the head, "as hard as I could," PC McCallum said.

Welcome for 'partnership politics' with Lib Dems

Blair picks up the Ashdown gauntlet

Michael White Political Editor

TONY Blair moved quickly last night to welcome Paddy Ashdown's call for "partnership politics" in which Labour and the Liberal Democrats would work together to implement a "middle ground" of Britain which will take more than one parliament — and more than one party.

could do in a globalised economy and accepted it would take years to "restore trust in government" after 17 Tory years. He called for a Great Reform Bill to clean up the political "mess", with a referendum on proportional representation.

Newt plots with Redwood

Jonathan Freedland in Washington

LIKE old Bolsheviks plotting the overthrow of the world, John Redwood and Newt Gingrich huddled together in a global summit of "revolutionary political leaders" in Washington yesterday — all that was missing was a chorus of the Internationale.

"Revolutionary Politics in a Democratic Society". "So many conservatives meeting to discuss revolution," marvelled the erstwhile Vulcan.

Diamonds — alluvial and maritime — are the lure and the stories are legion; of the fabled Cuango Valley, financing Unita's war against the Angolan government to the tune of an estimated \$30 million a month; and of Catoca, reputed to be the biggest diamond-bearing vein in the world...

David Beresford page 7

Advertisement for the new £5 coin, featuring images of the coin and text: 'Britain's new \$5 coin will cost you nothing. £5 for £5. Face Value Pre-Release Offer. Struck by the Royal Mint. Legal tender to spend or save. Now you can own Britain's new legal tender \$5 coin, issued to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen's 70th Birthday.'

Vertical advertisements on the left margin, including 'The Open University' and 'Study for A or BSc degree'.

News in brief

Scott inquiry legal aid bill nears £1m

THE bill for legal aid for the nine ministers and senior civil servants questioned in the Scott "arms to Iraq" inquiry has neared £1 million, the Government has disclosed in Parliamentary answers to Alan Williams, Labour MP for Swansea West. The most expensive legal bill has been the £318,165 spent by the Foreign Office to provide legal aid to, among others, William Waldegrave, the minister of state, who contested leaked draft findings by Sir Richard Scott last year. Other ministers covered by the bill include former foreign secretary Douglas Hurd, and ex-minister Tristan Garel-Jones.

Supermarket murder charge

A MAN is to be charged with murder following the death of one of 10 people injured in a supermarket stabbing. Tommy McGregor, aged 65, died on Sunday after being stabbed as he walked from his home in Small Heath, Birmingham, to a bank on December 29 last year. A police spokesman said Shahid Iqbal, aged 22, of Small Heath, would now be charged with murder. He had already been charged with 10 counts of attempted murder and two of attempting to cause grievous bodily harm following the incident at the Netto supermarket.

Britain fights EU on beef

BRITAIN last night backed US demands that beef from cattle treated with hormones should be allowed into the European Union, despite the opposition of all 14 other member states. The move, taken by Douglas Hoeg, the agriculture minister, at an EU ministerial council meeting in Brussels put the Government out of step with the other members who are fighting to retain the ban on hormone-treated meat, originally imposed throughout western Europe in 1987.

Bodies found in van

THE Police Complaints Authority is to investigate the deaths of two men who were found yesterday in a van in a river in Cambridge. Police had been informed that the van was in the river on Sunday but it was not removed until the following morning. According to the PCA, a man telephoned the police on Sunday to say he had seen a Ford Transit van in the Twenty Foot River near Coates while he had been fishing. A police officer attended the scene and contacted the van hire firm to which the vehicle belonged. The officer was unable to contact the company to which it had been hired. The deaths are not being treated as suspicious.

Grecian faces hearing

PAUL Grecian, the former arms dealer and informant for British intelligence now wanted by the US authorities, was told by a South African court yesterday that he will have to face an extradition hearing. Mr Grecian, aged 49, who tipped off Whitehall about the Iraqi "supergun" project, was arrested last month by Interpol agents on a US warrant when he arrived in South Africa for a Christmas holiday with his fiancée Elizabeth Powell. He is wanted in the US on charges of bank fraud and trying to sell American artillery fuse components to Iraq. He was acquitted of similar charges in Britain in November after the evidence — previously suppressed by the Government — showed that Whitehall had turned a blind eye to British arms being shipped to Iraq via Jordan in breach of export controls. Mr Grecian faces a possible 25-year jail sentence in the United States if convicted.

'Too busy' doctor apologises

A DOCTOR who examined the body of a patient in a crowded public car park, after telling undertakers he was "too busy" to travel to them, has been involved in two similar incidents in the past, the funeral firm disclosed yesterday Monday. A spokesman for the Co-operative Funeral Service said that on both occasions they had been forced to bring a body to the surgery of Hamid Latif at Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, because he was unwilling to follow the normal procedure of travelling to their chapel of rest.

Educationists join selective school row • Local authorities pledge to scrap system

Loyalty lecture for Harman

Donald MacLeod Education Correspondent

THE row in the Parliamentary Labour Party over Harriet Harman's decision to send her son to a selection-based grant maintained grammar school found echoes among teachers, education officials and local authorities yesterday. One of the party's respected figures, David Donnison, a member of the Plowden Committee in the 1960s, wrote to Tony Blair and Ms Harman to point out that politicians' choice of school for their children had not always been regarded as a private matter.

ment stands for." In the 1960s he had felt bound to send his children to comprehensive schools in Islington, north London. [They went on to Oxford and Sussex universities.] "As an active member of the Plowden Committee and chairman of the Public Schools Commission, I felt myself to be part of a larger movement working to create good educational opportunities for every child and to obtain selective schools and the 11-plus exam which had blighted the lives of so many youngsters," he said.

controlled — reiterated the pledge by David Blunkett, the party's education spokesman, to end selection at the remaining 160 grammar schools in England. Graham Lane, education chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, called Ms Harman's decision "unfortunate".

Teachers in the inner London borough of Southwark, whose schools Ms Harman and her husband, Jack Dorney, a senior trade union official, seemed anxious to escape, were incensed. "We would have hoped she would have been able to show her commitment to Southwark schools," said Tim Harrison, regional official of the National Union of Teachers.

grammar schools. "The one you don't hear about are the children who are not going to succeed but their parents believe they can if they push them hard enough. Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the union, expressed strong support for Gerry Stinberg, MP for Durham City, who resigned as chairman of the party's education committee. "Should the Labour Party move away from the clear policy commitment made by shadow education secretary, David Blunkett, against selection of any kind, the union will be totally opposed."

Selective memories

"We oppose any return to selection through the 11-plus." Labour Party — Diversity and Excellence, 1995.

"No selection... under a Labour government." David Blunkett, 1995.

"I am not going to make a choice for my child on the basis of what is politically correct." Tony Blair, December 1994.

"We sent our children to comprehensives. To do otherwise would have been hypocrisy." David Donnison, Labour chair of Public Schools Commission.

"We would have hoped she would have shown her commitment to Southwark schools." Tim Harrison, NUT official.



Knife in the back... Kingsdale, the nearest school for Ms Harman's son, lost pupils in the publicity which followed a stabbing PHOTOGRAPH: GARRY WEAVER

Parents' dilemma blamed on open enrolment policy

High ability children creamed off under system

Martin Linton on borough's failings

COUNCIL leaders in the south London borough of Southwark, where Harriet Harman is an MP, blamed her dilemma on an open enrolment system which is stripping their comprehensive schools of higher ability children.

where the Harman's are sending their child, skim off another inch of the cream. The flight into the outer suburbs used to be limited by the fact that Bromley schools gave priority to children from their own catchment areas.

years to lift their schools up the league table only to see the parents of more able children scared off by a whiff of bad publicity.

St Olave's is far removed from the normal, average state under-funded comprehensive

Sarah Boseley on Harman's selection

AN Old Slavonian can hold his head up in the most privileged of drawing-rooms. Few would guess that he had not been educated at one of Britain's top public schools.

rowed for a nominal charge from the school. St Olave's and St Saviour's, with which it later amalgamated, were established in Elizabethan times at the southern end of London Bridge thanks to public subscription by the people of Southwark for the education of the "children and younglings" of the parish.

The chairman of the education committee, Anne Worsley, refused to criticise either parents or their local MP, saying she was only doing "what the system has driven her to do".

That creates a free-for-all where parents are scrambling for the best schools and schools are scrambling for the best pupils to improve their position in the exam league tables.

in neighbouring Bromley the average is 47 per cent, nearly the highest in the country, and the two selective grammar schools, St Olave's and Newstead Wood, are both on 59 per cent.

Nominally a Church of England school, it is voluntary-aided by the state, but the spacious buildings, swimming pool, 20 acres of playing fields and first-class facilities — for just 865 pupils — betray how far removed it is from the under-funded state comprehensive norm.

The tests cover "aspects of Reasoning, English and Mathematics", says the prospectus, which warns parents to bear in mind that they are academically demanding. The maths is "broadly in line with the National Curriculum Level 4".

Storm delights Scargill

Martin Wainwright on a byelection gift for the Socialist Labour Party



Arthur Scargill with Brenda Nixon PHOTOGRAPH: DON MCGHEE

PARTY member 64 of Britain's newest political force were in cheerful form last night, buoyed up by a red-faced day for New Labour.

last year of Derek Enright, who had a 20,000 majority. Voting in the former mining area will be on February 1.

call to be surprised. It's entirely typical of the way New Labour is going under the leadership of Tony Blair.

Like many ancient public schools, it is backed by a charitable foundation, which includes the Bishop of Rochester, the Council of Special Trustees of Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals and the Estates Governors of Alleyn's College of God's Gift in Dulwich.

Most boys go on to university — all but one last year — with 11 going to Oxford or Cambridge.

Almost all parents contribute financially by co-venturing money to the school's parents' association — a registered charity which donates to the school fund. There are grants available for boys in financial need and also travel and university awards.

All pupils are expected to take part in extra-curricular activities during their lunch-hours and after school. A third of them have instrumental tuition which is available on "almost any instrument", most of which can be bor-

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الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية



News in brief

Belize challenges Britain's law lords

THE lives of four men on death row in Belize hung in the balance yesterday, as a battery of lawyers and five of Britain's most eminent judges argued arcane points of law in a high-ceilinged oak-paneled room thousands of miles away. The government of the tiny Central American country is challenging the right of the judicial committee of the Privy Council — Britain's law lords in their role as final court of appeal for some Commonwealth countries and territories — to hear the men's petitions against their sentences. Lawyers for Belize, which gained independence from Britain in 1981, claim a proclamation by the governor in 1978, laying down time limits for appeals, bars the Privy Council from hearing the pleas. The men, all sentenced to death for murder, failed to file their cases in time, the lawyers say. The Belize government has introduced a bill to remove the right of appeal to Britain's law lords, but it has insufficient support to force the measure through. Sir George Brown, the country's Chief Justice, ruled last September that the Belize cases were "unlawfully" before the Privy Council, and the law lords would be acting outside their jurisdiction if they heard them. — *Clare Dyer, Legal Correspondent.*

Hashimoto takes tough line

JAPAN'S new prime minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, promised yesterday to introduce a more assertive foreign policy that will reduce the United States presence on the southern island of Okinawa. In his first speech to parliament, Mr Hashimoto — who proved a tough negotiator in trade talks with the US last year — tried to present himself as a reformer who will shake up the governing establishment. He took the offensive on an unpopular plan to bail out home mortgage companies with taxpayers' money, saying he would "deal strictly" with any mortgage company officials who may have broken the law with loans to property speculators. Mr Hashimoto said he wanted to reduce the US military facilities on Okinawa, where more than half of the 47,000 US troops in Japan are stationed. Protests there have been growing since the rape of a 12-year-old girl last September, allegedly by three US servicemen. — *AP, Tokyo.*

Top banker flees Rwanda

THE governor of Rwanda's central bank has fled to Europe, warning of growing insecurity for his fellow Hutus in the latest defection from the top ranks of the government, sources close to the banker said. They said Gerard Ntuyeteka left for self-imposed exile in Belgium earlier this month during an official trip to Europe. Jean-Pierre Bizimana, the information minister, confirmed the defection. "Our central bank governor has fled the country. He has complained of worsening insecurity and acts by the military," he said. Mr Bizimana said Mr Ntuyeteka had fled for personal reasons and alleged that the banker had been implicated in a scandal after Rwanda issued new notes last year. Mr Ntuyeteka's defection follows what Western diplomats see as the rise of Tutsi hardliners in the new government. — *Reuters, Kigali.*

Muslim leader shot dead

THE pro-Moscow Muslim spiritual leader of Tajikistan and members of his family were shot dead in an attack which cast a shadow on fresh efforts to bring peace to the central Asian state, Tajik officials said yesterday. Government officials reached by telephone from Alma Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan, said Murti Fatkhulla Sharipov, aged 58, died in a sub-machinegun fire when unknown assailants burst into his home west of the Tajik capital Dushanbe late on Sunday night. His wife, son, daughter-in-law and a teenage spiritual pupil staying at his home were also killed, officials said. The killings, on the first day of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, were condemned by the government and an Islamic opposition leader based in Iran. Tajikistan's president, Imomali Rakhmonov, after visiting the mufti's relatives, denounced the murder as "a monstrous and cynical challenge to the Muslim world". He said: "It is an attempt to destabilise the peace and political situation in the republic." — *Reuters, Alma Ata.*

The dazzling lure of peace

Angola's discourse of war may prevail, but talk in Luanda is of gems, writes **David Beresford**

SITTING on a hotel balcony, the ambassador recounted with gleaming eyes how a diamond prospector had invited him to grab a random handful of gravel from a river bed, and had then picked three precious gemstones from his palm. Below, in Luanda's stinking, garbage-strewn streets, a street-urchin kicked his legs in the air for balance as he roared through a roadside bin, and a handful of men scavenged through rubbish with absent-minded indifference. In a country where inflation stands at more than 5,000 per cent, money has little more than nominal value. But that is not to say there is no wealth. This is a get-rich-quick country and the carpet-baggers are in town — many

easily identifiable by their thick forearms and pot bellies which testify to a lifetime's love affair with Boer cooking, boerewors sausage and beer. For all their girth, they are fit men, former soldiers and naval frogmen who have abandoned South Africa and the vicissitudes of affirmative action in pursuit of a fortune. Diamonds — alluvial and maritime — are the lure, and the stories about them are legion. They speak of the fabled Cuango Valley, financing Unita's war against the Angolan government to the tune of an estimated \$19 million a month, and of Catoca, reputed to be the biggest diamond-bearing vein in the world, larger even than Kimberley, South Africa's famous diamond centre. It was the lesson of Kimberley that the dealer, not the digger, is king. In recognition

of this, De Beers and rival buyers are taking uncut pebbles at top prices with no questions asked. Testifying to the wealth in this land of the poor, a giant oil rig squats in Luanda Bay, undergoing maintenance. The black gold pumped out of Angola at the rate of \$65,000 barrels a day has financed the governing MPLA during 20 years of civil war, as well as generating sufficient profit to keep the world's oil companies jostling at the trough. There is gold as well, waiting to be discovered with a host of untapped minerals. Angola's reserves are impossible to quantify, as is the

Bahrain's army flexes muscle

BAHRAIN'S army has threatened to introduce martial law in response to the latest clashes between the island's opposition movements campaigning for a renewal of democracy and state security forces. The defence ministry's threat, issued in a statement at the weekend, followed a meeting between its officials and the crown prince, Sheikh Hamed, the army's commander-in-chief. Sheikh Hamed was said to have been concerned that the disturbances were getting out of control after riots spread to Hamed town, the middle-class, predominantly Sunni Muslim suburb named after him. The unrest had previously been confined mainly to Shi'ite villages outside the capital, Manama. Bahraini newspapers warned that the situation was "drifting towards a dangerous crossroads, the country stands on the brink with potential military involvement only a whisper away". Shi'ite villages remained cordoned off, with few people on the streets. Opposition sources in London estimated that 2,000 people — many young Muslim clerics — had been arrested in the past three days. Among them was a leading Shi'ite cleric, Sheikh Jamil. The elderly imam was taken from his home at midnight last night and his family placed under house arrest. The detention of large numbers of clerics and prayer leaders coincides with the start of the holy fasting month of Ramadan, when the attendances at mosques traditionally soar. The opposition sources in exile said the defence ministry's statement highlighted the growing rift about how to handle the crisis between the young crown prince and the

Missionaries help free Irian Jaya hostage

THREE Christian missionaries appeared to make a breakthrough yesterday in hostage talks in Irian Jaya, the Indonesian part of the island of New Guinea, after securing the release of another captive. But diplomats in Jakarta are not convinced that freedom is near for the remaining 13 hostages, including four British graduates and two Dutch wildlife researchers. The separatist Free Papua

Late results fuel rumours of pro-Arafat vote rigging

PALESTINIAN officials were still scrutinising returns from Saturday's general election last night, more than 24 hours after the promised deadline for final results. The long delay has spawned rumours of alleged ballot rigging in favour of Yasser Arafat's dominant Fatah faction. Mr Arafat, who scored a resounding personal victory in the contest for the presidency of the new self-rule Palestinian council, is certain to have an overwhelming majority in the legislature. Feelings were returned for 78 of the 88 seats gave at least 50 to Fatah. Main opposition parties, such as the Islamist movement Hamas, boycotted the polls. But more than 20 independent candidates were victorious, including outspoken critics of the self-rule accords with Israel, and of Mr Arafat's autocratic style. Most observers see the outcome as a clear endorsement of the peace policies of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's chairman, and as a rebuff to the Islamist movement which, although it boycotted the poll, had several well-known candidates running as independents. International monitors said voters had been allowed to express themselves freely, though they criticised both Israeli and Palestinian security forces, present in large numbers at polling centres. Yesterday brought fresh allegations of malpractice. The Israeli human rights group B'tselem said one candidate's brother, a lawyer, had been arrested after complaining of ballot rigging. Palestinian security sources confirmed that the man, Hussein al-Shuykhi, was detained. They said he had urged a crowd to burn down a police station, in protest against the alleged fraud.

Japanese poets become well versed in stardom

A nation's obsession with expression is fostering a growing culture of celebrity, reports **Nicholas Kristof** in Tokyo. **S**HE is young and famous, and has her own weekly television and radio shows. Her fans mob her in the street. But Madoka Mayuzumi is neither a movie actress nor a rock star. She is a poet. Ms Mayuzumi is one of a number of Japanese poets who have achieved a celebrity status usually reserved for superstar athletes or entertainers. No country takes poetry more seriously than Japan. "People are affluent now, but after they've gained everything they want to express themselves," said Ms Mayuzumi, aged 30, a former office lady or "OL" at a Tokyo bank. "OLs wear fashionable clothes, play tennis and go skiing, but they're not satisfied with that," she said. "They want to show their feelings." Poetry has a long tradition in Japan, but in the past two decades it has surged in popularity. Millions regularly write verse and thousands of poetry books — some bestsellers. All national newspapers carry several poetry columns and one newspaper, the Asahi Shimbun, runs a daily poetry column on the front page. Its writer, Makoto Ooka, who has sold 1.2 million copies of his books, said: "The number of people who write and read poems is at a record high. Poetry has become a living thing in people's lives." A few days ago, several television channels offered live coverage of the Imperial poetry contest, Japan's equivalent of the Super Bowl. Emperor Akihito and his family attended, entering poems along with more than 15,000 others. The broad appeal of poetry underscores the way in which "high culture" in Japan is integrated into "pop culture". Classical music, theatre, literature and poetry have an extraordinarily broad audience. Paradoxically, the Japanese insist that so many people appreciate poetry not because they are deep but because they are shallow. They suggest Japanese verse is more accessible because it is shorter and more vivid than Western poetry. Yoshinasa Ueda, who edits haikus for the Asahi Shimbun, said: "Poems are so short, anybody can write them." — *New York Times.*

Yeltsin hints at candidacy

RUSSIA'S president, Boris Yeltsin, said yesterday he might again run for the presidency in June but would not announce his final decision until the middle of February. Speaking to foreign investors, Mr Yeltsin said: "I understand that, if I give my consent, the fight will be a hard and not a simple one. Those against whom I will have to compete are rather unusual people, but we will take account of the electoral experience of other countries." Despite being ridiculed in the Russian press for the recent hostage crisis in Dagestan, Mr Yeltsin kept up a barrage of statements designed to prove that he is an active candidate. Yegor Gaidar, his first prime minister and guru of the reform programme, yesterday urged him not to stand, echoing Democrats who now regard Mr Yeltsin as a liability. "His nomination would be the best present to give to the communists," Mr Gaidar said. Mr Yeltsin's main challenger for the Russian presidency is expected to be the Communist Party leader, Gennady Zyuganov. — *David Hearst, Moscow.*

Soldiers deny student killings

EIGHT soldiers and a school administrator pleaded not guilty yesterday to involvement in the disappearance of 26 teenage students in Sri Lanka seven years ago. They face 80 charges of abduction and murder. The students disappeared at the height of the army's drive in 1989 to crush a two-year insurrection in the south, the heartland of Sinhalese nationalism. The crackdown was against the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), or People's Liberation Front, a Marxist group that waged a failed campaign to overthrow the government. By the time the insurrection was crushed in 1989, up to 30,000 people had died, according to Amnesty International. In retaliation, government-sponsored death squads abducted suspected Marxist supporters, especially young men, according to well-documented reports. Meanwhile, Tamil separatists claimed to have shot down an air force helicopter with 29 people aboard, which disappeared off the northern coast yesterday. — *AP, Colombo.*

Oath forces OJ to speak

O. J. SIMPSON was due to face hostile questions from lawyers yesterday, the first time the former United States sports star was to speak under oath about the double murder case in which he was acquitted last October. He had been ordered by a judge to submit to a deposition, in which defendants in a civil trial give private testimony in a lawyer's office. Mr Simpson is being sued for wrongful death by the families of his late wife, Nicole, and her friend, Ronald Goldman. Mr Simpson is marketing his own version of the events — not delivered on oath — on a television show he has sold to a black cable network. — *Christopher Reid, Los Angeles.*



A Muscovite gathers the signatures needed to secure Boris Yeltsin's place on the June ballot. PHOTOGRAPH: SERGEI KARPUNIN

Finance Guardian

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
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for the wood



Mobile phones share sale in March

£2.8bn Orange floats slice



Cooking one... Managing director Hans Snook waves an Orange handset as the company announces flotation plans

PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

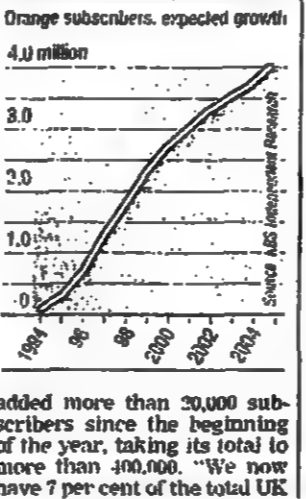
Nicholas Barnister
Technology Editor

ORANGE, the mobile phone group which started operations less than two years ago, yesterday announced plans to float at least 25 per cent of the company in a move expected to value the business at around £2.7 billion.

A new company called Orange has been formed to become the holding company of Hutchison Telecommunications UK, which owns the Orange mobile phone network, a national paging system and a service provider selling airtime on the Cellnet and Vodafone networks.

Hutchison Whampoa, a large Hong Kong trading group, and BAE, the civil aviation and defence group, will retain their existing shares in the business. Hutchison at present owns 68.22 per cent and BAE the remaining 31.58 per cent.

Orange future



Market sources estimate that Orange is currently worth about £2.1 billion, after taking account of the shareholder loans and about £450 million of bank debt. The capital will need to be increased by at least a third to give the public 25 per cent of the enlarged group, raising its worth after flotation to about £2.8 billion.

Orange has already invested about £1.1 billion in its network which, Mr Snook said, now covers about 90 per cent of the population in Great Britain. Within the next few months the group is expected to extend its network to Northern Ireland, where it is already acquiring base stations.

The battle for Forte MAM adds vital stake to Granada's assault

Ian King

MERCURY Asset Management was last night understood to have committed its 14.4 per cent stake in Forte to Granada, thereby making the media and leisure combine odds-on favourite to win control of the hotels group.

believed, Gartmore, are likely to reject Granada's offer. MAM refused to make any comment officially, although privately, insiders expressed anger at the way the fund management group, and in particular its vice-chairman Carol Galley, have been criticised during the bid.

Last night, Forte shares closed down 3p at 373p against Granada's cash offer of 362p a share. But Granada shares closed up 2p at 959p, valuing its cash-and-shares offer at 389p.

I spy kids' video camera

Nicholas Barnister
Technology Editor

MUMS coming up the stairs. Hide the camera. Hide the camera. Hide the camera. The ultimate in spy cameras for children is about to hit the market later this year, thinly disguised as a toy.

Children bent on mischief will be able to plug the camera into a bedroom television and then position it strategically outside the door to give warning of approaching parents.

clinging Sesame Street preschool toys, radio controlled vehicles and View-master 3D viewers.

Boeing's run of success against rival Airbus goes on with \$4bn order

Mark Tran in New York

BOEING yesterday clinched another major aircraft order when General Electric's aircraft leasing company, GE Capital Aviation, announced a \$4 billion contract to buy as many as 23 passenger aircraft.

Asda chief makes £1.8m profit from share option sale

Pauline Springett

ARCHIE Norman, chief executive of supermarket chain Asda, has made a profit of £1.8 million from the sale of part of his holding in the company.

period of time, to maintain our calibre of management. Mr Norman now has options over 4.5 million Asda shares. As well as the latest tranche, he holds 855,896 options granted at 97.5p and exercisable from 1998; 520,328 options granted at 54.5p, half of which are exercisable in July 1997 and the rest the following year; and 2.2 million options, granted at 0.1p under a special long-term incentive plan.

At that price, the camera has its limitations. The am-

Notebook

US fiscal threat to global growth



Edited by Alex Brummer

UNDER more normal circumstances tonight's pre-election State of the Union address in the United States would be the opportunity for an incumbent first-term President to lay out his strategy and spending priorities for the next four years.

counts — are having to eat their words. This spring's planned stock market flotation is expected to see the repayment of around £200 million of loans which BAE made to Orange and still leaves the company with a stake which could be worth in excess of £700 million.

Generation game

THE issue of whether Goldman Sachs would finally shed its private partnership status and go public boiled down to simple mathematics. Although chairman Jon Corzine and the other members of Goldman's executive committee favoured a flotation, they backed off in the face of strong opposition from the firm's younger partners.

Mercury rises

MERCURY Asset Management's role in deciding the outcome of Granada's £3.8 billion bid for Forte has been the biggest talking point in the run-up to today's 1pm deadline.

Highland Distilleries buys stake in Macallan-Glenlivet

Pauline Springett

HIGHLAND Distilleries, maker of Famous Grouse whisky blend, has bought a 28 per cent stake in rival Macallan-Glenlivet for £46.6 million.

Macallan is probably best known for its single malt whisky. The Macallan, Brian Ivory, Highland's chief executive, said the strategy was to build a portfolio of premium brands, either owned outright or as a stake, around Famous Grouse.

Energy users seek inquiry into generators' activities

PowerGen

LARGE energy users yesterday called for an investigation into the grip of the two big generators on the wholesale electricity market.

PowerGen, the group claims the operation of the wholesale electricity market, known as the pool, is the main cause of the high prices which industry has to pay for electricity.

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Death Notices

Dan Clabister

Dutch fury as 7,800 workers face lay-offs



Help us please... The notice at the security gate says it all as workers walk past a Fokker 100 model in the foyer at the planemaker's Amsterdam factory yesterday.

Germans pull out of Fokker

Mark Milner European Business Editor THE Dutch government was last night desperately seeking to rescue at least part of Fokker after Daimler-Benz refused to stump up any more money for the ailing aircraft maker.

plains. "We will do everything we can do to see whether there is a possibility, with other industrial partners, that parts of Fokker could actually survive," the Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs, Hans Wijers, pledged last night.

Yesterday's decision to halt financial support comes after two years in which Fokker, whose founder Anthony Fokker once built fighters for the Red Baron, Manfred von Richthofen, has struggled to stay afloat.

Brutally direct Schrempp puts profits first

Outlook

Mark Milner

DAIMLER-BENZ chairman Jürgen Schrempp, yesterday delivered a mission statement which was almost brutal in its directness. "Profitability in all fields of business is the first priority of the group; any strategies which do not unequivocally support that priority are unacceptable."

group, much of it linked to transport. Trains, cars and planes, you might say, through, respectively, AEG, Mercedes and an aerospace arm which threatened to become Europe's top gun in the fiercely competitive market for smaller "regional" commercial aircraft.

Daimler has already said that it would like a partner for the small Dornier turbo-prop business and now Fokker has been abandoned to its fate. Daimler made it clear yesterday the company would like to see Airbus develop its product range by building both bigger and smaller aircraft — but it is hard to see how it could move down the model range without competing against existing BAe and Aerospaciale aircraft.

Fokker facts

- July 21, 1919 Founded by 29-year-old Anthony Fokker in Amsterdam
1919 First Fokker F2 produced
1921 US branch opens
1924 Concentrates on military aircraft
1929 Anthony Fokker dies
Fokker factory destroyed during WW2
1945 Company re-emerges building military training aircraft
1961 Moves to new factory at Schiphol
1988 Re-enters civil aviation market with Fokker Friendship
1993 Dutch government takes stake in Fokker
1993 Daimler-Benz buys a controlling stake
Aug 1995 Fokker announces record first half losses
Jan 1996 Daimler-Benz refuses further financial support



Two companies which have been linked with Fokker are the Canadian company Bombardier and British Aerospace. Bombardier is reported to have denied having any talks with Fokker, while BAe would say only that it was "monitoring" the situation.



German steelworkers in Duisburg yesterday carry a mock coffin in protest against an increase from 54 to 57 years in the threshold for early retirement

Kohl tackles jobs crisis

Ian Traynor on the Bonn summit designed to chart escape from rising tide of defeatism

CONFRONTED by soaring unemployment, a battery of troubling economic indicators, and a burgeoning welfare crisis, Chancellor Helmut Kohl today launches a belated attempt to drag Germany out of a downward spiral of stagnation and pessimism.

shortest working hours, longest holidays, and most generous retirement and unemployment provision; an overvalued German mark hurting competitiveness in crucial export markets; and a heavily regulated business environment buffeted by the winds of globalisation.

The centrepiece of today's meeting is the radical proposal by IG Metall, the giant engineering union, to forego real wage rises from next year in return for the creation of more than 300,000 jobs over the next three years.

Mirror float inquiry could lead to charges

Dan Atkinson

FRESH criminal charges could arise from the government investigation into Robert Maxwell's flotation of Mirror newspapers, the Department of Trade and Industry confirmed yesterday.

berg — which lasted eight months and culminated last week in unanimous not-guilty verdicts — delayed the inspectors' work, which has now resumed.

No let-up in the building gloom

Pauline Springett

THE UK construction industry faces another difficult year made worse by political uncertainty, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

reflects the political uncertainty facing the country over the next few months. The prospect of a hung Parliament — and a Government with limited room for manoeuvre — will not help our industry and can only exacerbate the economic situation.

News in brief

Toyota to export outside the EU

TOYOTA will this year start to export vehicles produced at its Burnaston plant in Derbyshire to outside the European Union area, the company announced yesterday.

USAir back in the black

USAIR, British Airways' struggling American partner, reversed a six-year run of losses yesterday when it reported a \$119.3 million (\$79.5 million) profit for 1995.

Menzies profits slump

JOHN Menzies, the newspaper wholesaler and retail chain, yesterday unveiled a 48 per cent slump in half-year pre-tax profits at \$3.8 million.

Banks rob savers of billions

BANKS have robbed savers of billions of pounds over the past 10 years, according to the Bradford & Bingley Building Society. It says that savers would be \$24 billion worse off since 1986 if they had put their money into banks instead of building societies.

NatWest SAFETY NOTICE. As part of a promotion, sticks of rock have been given out by some of our Branches. The rock is pink, green and yellow striped and has 'NATWEST' written through the centre. Due to a remote possibility that some sticks of rock could be contaminated with metal fragments, as a precaution we are advising that this product should not be consumed, and should be destroyed or returned to the nearest NatWest branch.

Vertical advertisements on the right edge of the page, including 'Drea drea', 'Tomlinson', and 'Exeter w'.

Rugby League

Dream team dreams aim

Paul Fitzpatrick
I PROMISE you one thing," said Alex Murphy, Warrington's new football executive. "John Dorahy will come back to haunt Wigan."

ing an equal opportunity to play first-team football. Murphy said that no Warrington players would be shown the exit, all would have the chance to prove their worth, but it was his ambition to bring in experienced players of the highest class.



Risky caper... Samantha Brewster on Heath's Insured and the route she took round the Horn

Brewster has Southern cross to bear

Bob Fisher
SAMANTHA Brewster rounded Cape Horn, the first of the markers in her attempt to sail non-stop around the world from east to west.

started. It's as if from October 29 to now has been from the 10-minute gun to the starting gun. The race has only just begun.

Short cut around the world

Samantha Brewster has sailed through Le Maire Strait saving a day in her attempt to beat Mike Golding's 181 day westward circumnavigation.



Brewster's latest position: heading out into the Pacific

Racing

1,835-1 treble takes Maguire to half-century

Ken Oliver
ADRIAN MAGUIRE reached his half-century in spectacular style at Warwick yesterday when riding a 1,835-1 treble.

great deal of winning and Rolfe is napped to improve on his promising debut run earlier this month.

Maguire had waited patiently before sending the doughty stayer past Distinctive to score by three and a half lengths.

The highlight of his career was the victory of Nickel Coin in the 1981 Grand National.

Tomlinson moves to Bulls

BRADFORD BULLS have signed Batley's highly rated scrum-half Glen Tomlinson in a deal which takes three Bradford players to Batley.

and Roger Simpson go to Batley, who have also received a small financial adjustment.

Leicester with form for the Jackpot races

Table of Leicester race results including race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

Market Rasen

Table of Market Rasen race results including race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

Lingfield (A.W.)

Table of Lingfield (A.W.) race results including race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

Results

Large table of race results from various tracks, listing race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

Market Rasen

Large table of race results from Market Rasen, listing race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

Lingfield (A.W.)

Large table of race results from Lingfield (A.W.), listing race numbers, names of horses, and their finishing positions.

Vertical text on the left edge of the page, including 'float', 'y could', 'charges', 't-up in the', 'ling gloom', 'brief', 'ta to export', 'de the EU', 'back in the black', 'Profits slump', 'rob savers of billions'.

Advertisement for RACELINE, featuring contact information for Leicester, Market Rasen, and Lingfield.

Cricket

Now angry Reeve breaks silence of the sheepish

David Hopps AS ENGLAND'S players made a world-weary return to the TCCB's wrath in Dermot Reeve...

ing compared with their meek acceptance year upon year of the Test and County Cricket Board's restrictions...



Illingworth... bullying Reeve... bewildered

that Malcolm's inability to defend himself in print immediately after he had been de- rided as 'a cricketing nonentity'...

Rugby Union

Twickenham points finger at Dourthe

Frank Keating

TONY HALLETT, the Rugby Football Union secretary, yesterday complained officially to the French Rugby Federation...

The incident in France's 15-13 victory was highlighted on BBC's Rugby Special on Sunday and evoked sour memories from last season in Paris...

Tennis

Scud falls to earth

David Irvine in Melbourne

EVERYTHING Mark Philippoussis touched turned to gold when he ambushed the top seed Pete Sampras...

Woodford's new takes on Sweden's Thomas Enqvist, who, after a tight first set against Italy's Renzo Furlan...



Swiss rolled... Brenda Schultz-McCarthy is stretched to breaking point by Martina Hingis

Hingis' humour has sharp edge as she cuts path to the last eight

TENNIS is a serious business but at 15 it is still fun to Martina Hingis. With a broad smile on her face she served underarm to Brenda Schultz-McCarthy...

precision of Hingis's passing shots. Although Hingis's underarm tactic failed to win her the point she was leading 5-1 in the first set...

Bristol 23, New South Wales 34

Kelagher dims Campo lights

Chris Hewett

DAVID CAMPESE was always able to walk on water, but no one suspected he was also in control of the electricity grid...

Thomas reduced the deficit with a third penalty 10 minutes from time but although the blind-side flanker Martin Corry, turning in another performance of rich promise...

Wales emphasis on youth may keep Davies out of side

David Plummer

JONATHAN DAVIES will learn today whether he has been recalled to the Wales squad 10 weeks after his return from rugby league...

Jonathon Davies, who is employed by the Welsh Rugby Union on a part-time basis as a development officer, is keen to play international rugby...

Ice Hockey

Trouble in Panthers' den

Vic Batscheider

THE point Nottingham Panthers thought they had saved when Paul Adey equalised 35 seconds from the end of their Sunday-night home game with Fife Flyers...

Yesterday the British Ice Hockey Association's disciplinary chairman, Frank

Hockey

Britain at their best to beat Belarus

Pat Rowley in Barcelona

THREE goals in 15 minutes set up Britain's 4-1 defeat of Belarus at the Olympic qualifying tournament here yesterday. The victory, their first here, took them up to third place behind Spain and Holland...

Belarus, generally intent on defending, forced three corners and reduced the arrears from the last one, but Thompson quickly cancelled it out with a clever lob after an in- terchange of passes with his namesake Rob.

Sport in brief

Golf The winner of the Open Championship at Royal Lytham from July 18-21 will receive 60 per cent more than John Daly earned when he triumphed at St Andrews last year.

Athletics Linford Christie and Colin Jackson, who have been training in Sydney to escape the English winter, will race at meetings in Adelaide on Friday and Perth on Sunday.

Motor Racing The Portuguese driver Pedro Lamy has signed for the Italian Formula One team Minardi for another season. The

second driver will be named soon from five candidates, including Lamy's current Italian partner Luca Badoer.

Squash Phil Whittlock, the former England captain, is to retire from the Professional Squash Association Tour after 10 years on the circuit. Whittlock, who has played in more than 120 tournaments, wants to cut down on his travelling

to spend more time with his family.

Cricket Craig Spearman (71 not out) and Roger Towse (57 not out) boosted New Zealand on the third day of the second Test against Zimbabwe in Auckland. They reached 138 for no wicket in their second innings to lead by 68 overall.

Arsenal put nine on sale to buy

Thomas and Lee

A

Table with columns for 'Pools Forecast' and various betting odds.

SportsGuardian

UNITED STAY IN PURSUIT OF THE PREMIERSHIP TITLE

West Ham United 0, Manchester United 1

New Cantona is scorer and peacemaker

David Lacey

A YEAR to the week after the kung-fu kick that earned Eric Cantona an infamous place in football history, the Frenchman found himself playing peacemaker after scoring a vital goal that stiffened Manchester United's flagging pursuit of Newcastle United at the top of the Premier League.

His placatory influence appeared in the angry scenes when Butt was sent off six minutes from time after a scything foul on Dicks, his second bookable offence.

Trailing Newcastle by 12 points, Alex Ferguson's team needed to get their act together if second place was not to become Liverpool's preserve. West Ham had won only once in six league games and lost the other five, a slump which had dragged them back into trouble, but Manchester United had secured only two victories in nine.

Within two minutes Ferguson's players were experiencing some familiarly anxious vibes. The Manchester United manager might have abandoned the experiment with three centre-backs so ruthlessly exposed by Sunderland in the FA Cup, but his defence was still lacking Fallster and was by no means secure.

West Ham could and should have gone ahead in the second minute. Bruce misread an enormous clearance from Miklosko, allowing Cotte to hit the ball sweetly as it dropped. Unfortunately for West Ham his shot hit the underside of the bar.

The corner that followed produced confident but unheeded claims for hazardball against Cantona which did nothing to alleviate Mancunian feelings of unease. In attack, however, the picture was rather different.

The alacrity with which Giggs began taking the ball past defenders and the space Manchester United's movements usually created once they had crossed the halfway line suggested that they were just as likely to take an early lead, and so it proved.

In the eighth minute came a marvellous piece of impudence by Giggs, who flicked the ball past Dicks as he turned West Ham on the right and left the defence exposed. He then exchanged passes with Cole before driving the ball low across goal. A stretching Sharpe could not reach it at the far post but behind him was Cantona, who threaded the ball through a needle's eye to score.

West Ham offered a brisk and imaginative response. A shot from Williamson cannoned off Schmeichel's knee at the near post after a canny centre from Dicks had dropped over Phil Neville's head at left-back, assuring Upton Park of sustained excitement if not necessarily a home victory.

With neither side inclined to press up into midfield and both spreading their wings there was usually plenty of space between the penalty areas. Creative players of the quality of Giggs, Cantona and Moncur will always prosper when the football is allowed to breathe.

With Butt and Keane steadily gaining a grip of the central areas, Manchester United started to control the tempo and pattern of the football and should have increased their lead before half-time.

It was a year to the day since Cole had started his first match at Old Trafford, following a £7 million transfer from Newcastle, by missing a sitter against Blackburn. Last night, just past the half-hour, he marked the anniversary in similar fashion.

Cantona's impeccable touch appeared to have set up Butt for a shot but the ball arrived at the feet of Cole, who promptly hoisted it over the bar. A little earlier Sharpe, another beneficiary of Cantona's skills, placed a free header into the West Ham net only to find the goal disallowed for a rather less obvious handling offence by the Frenchman than had been overlooked at the other end.

The second half found West Ham in a more subdued mood and their opponents ominously released Manchester United were now concentrating more on getting men behind the ball when they lost possession, which meant that West Ham were more likely to run out of space before they could get within range.

After Butt's dismissal West Ham attacked furiously and it took a fine reflex save by Schmeichel to deny Dowie's close-range snap shot five minutes from the end.

West Ham: Unbeaten, Miklosko; Brown, Potts, Keane, Dicks, Williamson; Moncur, Slater, Dowie, Cotte, Williamson (Captain), Schmeichel, Irwin, Bruce, G. Neville, P. Neville, Giggs, Butt, Keane, Sharpe, Cantona, Cole (Captain), Irwin.

Referee: S. Lodge (Barnsley).



Anfield connection... Stan Collymore (left) and Robbie Fowler, the Liverpool pair who were called up late to the England training squad at Bisham, talk tactics yesterday. David Lacey reports, page 14

New demon sitting on Damon's tail



Richard Williams

IF I were Damon Hill, I would be feeling pretty nervous about the news that Michael Schumacher has signed yet another sponsorship deal, just in time for the new Formula One season.

This is not a matter of financial envy, you understand, although the latest increment to Schumacher's income will apparently make him the third-highest paid sportsman in the world. The money is not the problem. What should be keeping Hill awake at nights is the fact that the man standing between him and the world championship has aligned himself with Nike.

It is now almost a quarter of a century since Phil Knight, Nike's founder, paid an American middle-distance runner called Steve Prefontaine about £3,000 to wear his new company's running shoes. Then came John McEnroe, who established the Nike preference for sportsmen with attitude.

In terms of shifting units, the key deal was cut in 1985 when Michael Jordan signed a contract worth £12 million over seven years, plus a five per cent royalty on the net wholesale price of every pair of Nike Air Jordans sold. Nike sold something like \$4 billion of gear around the world last year, its customers motivated by an image cunningly developed to stress the link between running shoes and the qualities of aggression and confrontation. The athletes most closely associated with the Nike philosophy are McEnroe and Andre Agassi, men whose extreme behaviour was ruthlessly exploited to enhance their marketing value.

So precisely has the company tuned itself in to the zeitgeist that three years ago its chief copywriter was named by Newsweek magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in America.

NBRITAIN, Ian Wright and Eric Cantona are featured in his campaigns, not all of which are pleasing to the Corinthian spirit. Was there ever a more repellent poster than the one featuring Wright under the headline "Gary Who?" Fortunately, no sooner had it been plastered all over London than Wright

began the job of failing to live up to the copywriter's promise, proving beyond doubt his inability to match Gary Lineker's achievements in the England team. If there was a more coarsely insulting effort, it must have been the notorious Cantona advertisement: "1996 was a great year for English football. Eric was born." Funny, certainly, but somehow demarcating too.

Hubris has often seemed to be the downfall of Nike performers. Carl Lewis, Michael Johnson and Sergei Bubka had their images plastered all over Barcelona during the 1992 Olympics only to devise various methods of failing. A year later Quincy Watts, attempting to add the 400 metres world championship to his Olympic title, suffered the most ironic of disasters when his Nike shoe disintegrated on the Stuttgart track. But what the case of Cantona proves is that Nike's copywriters are chillingly capable of turning catastrophe to their own advantage, and that if the performer's personality has been defined clearly enough then the actual result no longer matters.

So potent is this corporate culture that it can turn an athlete into a rebel by association; even a patently nice guy like Pete Sampras, whose manners would not have been out of place at an All England Club tea party in the days of Fred Perry and Kitty Godfree, had his image adjusted by his membership of the Nike club. And when they use Beat Generation veterans like Dennis Hopper or William Burroughs to advertise running shoes, you can't help but smile.

SCHUMACHER has signed a four-year deal, said to be worth about £2 million a year. Added to the £17 million he is being paid (by Marlboro) to drive the car this year, and the £8 million or so from other sponsors, this will lift him from ninth place in Forbes magazine's 1995 chart of sport's top earners to third place in the coming year's standings, behind Jordan and Mike Tyson, respectively the recipients of £30 million and \$27 million in 1995, and looking at an even more prosperous '96.

The surprise is that it has taken Schumacher so long to join in. He and Nike are natural partners. After all, what do you suppose he was saying to himself at Adelaide in 1994 when he hit the wall and veered back into the centre of the track to clout Hill out of the title race? Simple: "Just do it!" Now watch out for "Damon Who?" A dash of fake controversy — just what motor racing needs...

Keegan offers £6.8m for Asprilla

IAN ROSS
FAUSTINO ASPRILLA, Colombia's brilliant World Cup striker, still interests Newcastle. Kevin Keegan, determined to lift the Premiership title this season, is offering almost £7 million for the 26-year-old whose Italian club Parma rejected United's £6 million bid three months ago.

Newcastle's French international David Ginola begins a three-match suspension shortly, and Asprilla is known to be interested in English football. He almost joined Leeds United for £4.2 million this season.

After discussing his £10 million budget with his chairman Sir John Hall, Keegan told Parma that the offer was now £6.8 million. He is also hoping to sign Blackburn Rovers' combative England midfielder David Batty, who was dropped at the weekend. Blackburn want £4.5 million but Keegan values him at no more than £3 million.

Guardian Crossword No 20,556

Set by Hendra

Across
1 Recluse shuns society that makes vinegar (9)
5 Coypu caught and trained to amuse (6)
8 Saloon declines a red-haired person (7)
9 Siatern has to walk to work (7)
11 Roughly patch up one shirt for the old man (15)
12 Symbol of eternal life taken from Tutankhamen (4)
13 Ticker-tape instrument (10)
17 Man's crisis, it turns out, is in his own vanity (10)
18 Scrap is mostly surplus (4)
20 Tense notable in attendance (8,7)
23 Resort of Capri so flat? (7)
24 Living close to the ground — English porker, eating anything left (as starters) (7)

Down
2 Custos completed by Flintor? (9)
3 Bears in Scotland seen in entrance to Trossachs caves (5)
4 A method in sheds for the Robinsons, say? (9)
5 Group in boat heaving to, etc.? (5)
6 Treble, possibly, in the stalls? (8)
7 Little growth indicated by college president (5)
8 Having spilled paint, chap is in Ahab's office (11)
10 Pat a bit short — on trial, perhaps, after the wedding (11)
14 Said paper-shredder is to leave no trace (9)

15 Substitute for soldiers here (9)
16 Maze attendant only neat at the front? (8)
19 Disavowal of Ulster in trade (6)
21 Kate Hardcastle's bad posture? (5)
22 Is one struck in the ear? (5)

Solution tomorrow
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Nothing more acutely represents the antithesis of the free market than the honours system — or that prize element of it that yields a "front-loaded" change title change — the Barons, Knights and Dames...

Jon Snow

The Guardian 2 weeks for £1.99

Harriet

£3.9bn end for hotels dynasty

T

Marriage of a Prince

Inside